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Agenda item 10
Technical assistance and capacity-building

Afghanistan,* Angola,* Australia,* Bahamas,* Bangladesh, Barbados,* Bhutan,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Brazil, Bulgaria,* Burkina Faso,* Cabo Verde,* Canada,* Cuba, Cyprus,* Denmark,* Djibouti,* Fiji,* Finland,* France,* Gabon,* Georgia, Germany, Guyana,* Haiti,* Iceland,* Ireland,* Italy,* Jamaica,* Lao People's Democratic Republic,* Libya,* Luxembourg,* Madagascar,* Maldives,* Mali,* Malta,* Marshall Islands,* Mauritius,* Micronesia (Federated States of),* Montenegro,* Morocco,* Namibia,* Nauru,* Nepal,* Netherlands, New Zealand,* Norway,* Pakistan,* Panama, Peru,* Philippines, Poland,* Republic of Korea, Romania,* Rwanda, Samoa,* Senegal,* Sierra Leone,* Singapore,* Solomon Islands,* Somalia,* Spain,* Sudan,* Switzerland, Thailand,* Timor-Leste,* Tonga,* Trinidad and Tobago,* Turkey,* Tuvalu,* Ukraine,* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu:* draft resolution

34/... Promoting the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the Work of the Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling its resolution 19/26 of 23 March 2012 establishing the terms of reference for the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the Work of the Human Rights Council,

Recalling also its decision 31/115 of 23 March 2016 on the holding of a high-level panel discussion on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Human Rights Council and the value placed upon the participation of all States Members of the United Nations in the work of the Council,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/28 of 30 September 2016 on the enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights, and welcoming the

* State not a member of the Human Rights Council.

panel discussion under agenda item 10 to be held during its thirty-fifth session, entitled "A decade of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the Human Rights Council: challenges and the way forward",

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation is essential for the effective promotion and protection of human rights,

Recognizing also the importance of enhancing international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing further the importance of the universal participation of all States Members of the United Nations in the work of the Human Rights Council,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Voluntary Technical Assistance Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States in the Work of the Human Rights Council to meet fully its mandate;

2. *Recognizes* the continued achievements of the Trust Fund since its operationalization in 2014, and in particular its contribution to the following:

(*a*) The commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Human Rights Council at its thirty-second session in June 2016, at which there was universal representation of States Members of the United Nations for the first time;

(*b*) The creation and provision of an e-learning tool, in the working languages of the secretariat of the Trust Fund, providing initial training and information on the rules, functioning and customary practices of the Council and its mechanisms;

(*c*) The participation of 70 delegates, namely 39 women and 31 men, from 51 least developed countries and small island developing States, in the work of the Council;

(*d*) The participation of eight delegates from least developed countries and small island developing States in its fellowship programme to support their delegations in the work of the Council;

(*e*) Induction training prior to the sessions of the Council;

3. *Encourages* the secretariat of the Trust Fund to continue its training and capacity-building activities and briefings regarding the conduct and management of the Trust Fund;

4. *Expresses appreciation* for the efforts made by the secretariat of the Trust Fund to conduct its work in different working languages of the United Nations;

5. *Recognizes* the broadest application of the terms "least developed countries" and "small island developing States" used by United Nations programmes and entities when considering applications to the Trust Fund;

6. *Decides* that the Trust Fund will conduct at least one briefing on the outcomes of the regular and special sessions of the Human Rights Council each year in New York, prior to the commencement of each session of the General Assembly, for least developed countries and small island developing States, with a view to supporting the engagement of these delegations in the work of the Third Committee;

7. *Also decides* that the Trust Fund will conduct workshops in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Caribbean, before the tenth anniversary of the Trust Fund, reflecting on its achievements, identifying where further improvements might be made and assessing the

value of its activities in fulfilling its training and capacity-building mandate in support of the engagement of least developed countries and small island developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms;

8. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a report, in consultation with the beneficiaries of the Trust Fund, in which the Office evaluates the activities of the Trust Fund in meeting its training and capacity-building mandate, and to present the report to the Human Rights Council at its forty-ninth session, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Trust Fund;

9. *Welcomes with appreciation* the voluntary contributions of States to the Trust Fund, and encourages all States to make such voluntary contributions.